

EXHIBIT 1

LYONS & FLOOD, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
65 WEST 36TH STREET, 7TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10018
TELEPHONE: (212) 594-2400
FAX: (212) 594-4589

EDWARD P. FLOOD
E-Mail: eflood@lyons-flood.com

ADMITTED IN NEW YORK

December 19, 2007

By Overnight Delivery

Vandeventer Black, LLP
101 West Main Street, Suite 500
500 World Trade Center
Norfolk, Virginia 23510

Attn: John M. Ryan, Esq.

Re: Universal Leaf Tobacco Co. v. M/V MSC WASHINGTON, et al.
Mediterranean Shipping Company S.A., et al. v. Ceres Terminals, Inc., et al.
U.S.D.C. – S.D.N.Y.
07 Civ. 8391 (DAB)
Our File: 2549108

Dear John,

As per our recent discussion, enclosed please find two (2) courtesy copies of the Third-Party Complaint we have today filed with the Court in regard to the above-captioned matter.

I understand you will be speaking with VIT and the Ceres Entities and/or their respective underwriters to determine if your firm will be representing any of these Third-Party Defendants.

Very truly yours,

Lyons & Flood, LLP


By: Edward P. Flood

(Enclosures)

NEW JERSEY OFFICE:
1495 MORRIS AVENUE
UNION, NJ 07083
TEL: (201) 569-4435 FAX: (201) 569-4438

CONNECTICUT OFFICE:
19 COVENTRY LANE
RIVERSIDE, CT 06878
TEL: (203) 661-2355 FAX: (203) 661-2577

By Mail

cc: Casey & Barnett, LLC
317 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor
New York, New York 10017

Attn: Martin F. Casey, Esq.
(w/ enclosure)

U:\FLOODDOC\2549108\Correspondence\Ryan 01 ltr.doc

[Ship](#) [Track/History](#) [Address Book](#) [Preferences](#) [Fast Ship](#) [Reports](#) [My Profile](#)[<< Log out](#) [Home](#)[? Quick help](#)

Your Shipment Details:

Ship to:	John M. Ryan Vandevanter Black, LLP 101 W MAIN ST STE 500 500 WORLD TRADE CENTER NORFOLK, VA 235101674 US (757) 446-8600	Package type: FedEx Envelope Pickup/Drop Off: Drop Off Weight: 0.8 LBS Dimensions: 0 x 0 x 0 in Declared value: 0 USD Shipper account number: 397163806 Bill transportation to: 397163806 Courtesy rate quote:* 17.04 Discounted variable % Cod amount Special services: Shipment Purpose: Shipment type: Express Commercial/Residential Status: Commercial
From:	Erika Tax Lyons & Flood, LLP 65 West 36th Street 7th Floor New York, NY 10018 US 2125942400	
Tracking no:	799772682390	
Your reference:	2549108	
Ship date:	Dec 19 2007	
Service type:	Standard Overnight	

[Print](#)[Return to next steps](#)

Please note

*The courtesy rate shown here may be different than the actual charges for your shipment. Differences may occur based on actual weight, dimensions, and other factors. Consult the applicable [FedEx Service Guide](#) or the FedEx Rate Sheets for details on how shipping charges are calculated.

FedEx will not be responsible for any claim in excess of \$100 per package, whether the result of loss, damage, delay, non-delivery, misdelivery, or misinformation, unless you declare a higher value, pay an additional charge, document your actual loss and file a timely claim. Limitations found in the current FedEx Service Guide apply. Your right to recover from FedEx for any loss, including intrinsic value of the package, loss of sales, income interest, profit, attorney's fees, costs, and other forms of damage whether direct, incidental, consequential, or special is limited to the greater of \$100 or the authorized declared value. Recovery cannot exceed actual documented loss. Maximum for items of extraordinary value is \$500, e.g., jewelry, precious metals, negotiable instruments and other items listed in our Service Guide. Written claims must be filed within strict time limits; Consult the applicable FedEx Service Guide for details.